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July 23, 2010

Final Project Report
Grant #00240-ASEP-REN-004

City Market, Onion River Coop, is a 16,000 sq. ft. community-owned food cooperative located in downtown Burlington, Vermont. City Market provides a critical service to the residents of Burlington and the larger community by providing conventional, organic, and local products at a fair price to all. The Co-op is extremely dedicated to supporting the local economy and enhancing the sustainability of agriculture.

The original goals and objectives of the project:

- The photovoltaic system would produce over 32,748 kWh of electricity annually
- The project will support job growth in the renewable energy sector
- Contract a Vermont-based company to complete the project in order to take advantage of the local economic multipliers
- Reduce carbon-burnt energy use in the State of Vermont
- Encourage customers and community to consider renewal forms of energy

The State funds helped to make this project possible. City Market is committed to its owner-members. While taking the steps to become more environmentally responsible, City Market's management team must also protect the assets of the Co-op members at all times. The original payback of the installation of the PV system was 22 years. The state funds reduced the payback to a more reasonable investment term of 13 years.

Project activities accomplished:

The 31.28 kw Photovoltaic system was installed successfully without any significant delays. The project consisted of material costs, design costs, and installation costs. The state funds provide 28.7% of the cost of these items.

Impacts of the project:

- To date, the project has generated 17,354.05 kWh. This amount is on track to meet or exceed the annual kWh of 32,748.
- To date, City Market has avoided 26,741 pounds of CO₂. This amount is also on track to meet or exceed the annual amount of 57,166 pounds.
- To date, over 100 customers have attended one of the Solar Made Simple seminars presented by GroSolar staff at City Market. These seminars are used to provide an overview of the workings of solar power, including how to use state grants and federal tax credits to help pay for a system, as well as guidelines for assessing whether your home or business is right for solar.
- City Market provided \$134,012 to Vermont-based business, GroSolar; \$677 to Vermont-based engineers, Civil Engineering Associates; and \$1,207.78 to the City of Burlington for the completed projected. The State funds of \$53,900 were provided for payments made to Vermont-based business, GroSolar.